

Kinematic equations and projectile motion

Software 2 – Python Labs for Mathematics and Physics

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Constant velocity and acceleration

Kinematic equation (1D)

$$x(t) = x_0 + v_0 t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$$

- x_0 = initial position (m)
- v_0 = constant velocity (m/s)
- a = constant acceleration (m/s²)

Travelled distance

How to calculate, when

- (a) velocity is constant?
- (b) acceleration is constant?
- (c) in general (i.e. $v(t)$ continuous)?

(a) If v constant, then $x = v \cdot t$

(b) If acceleration is constant, then

$$v(t) = v_0 + a t$$

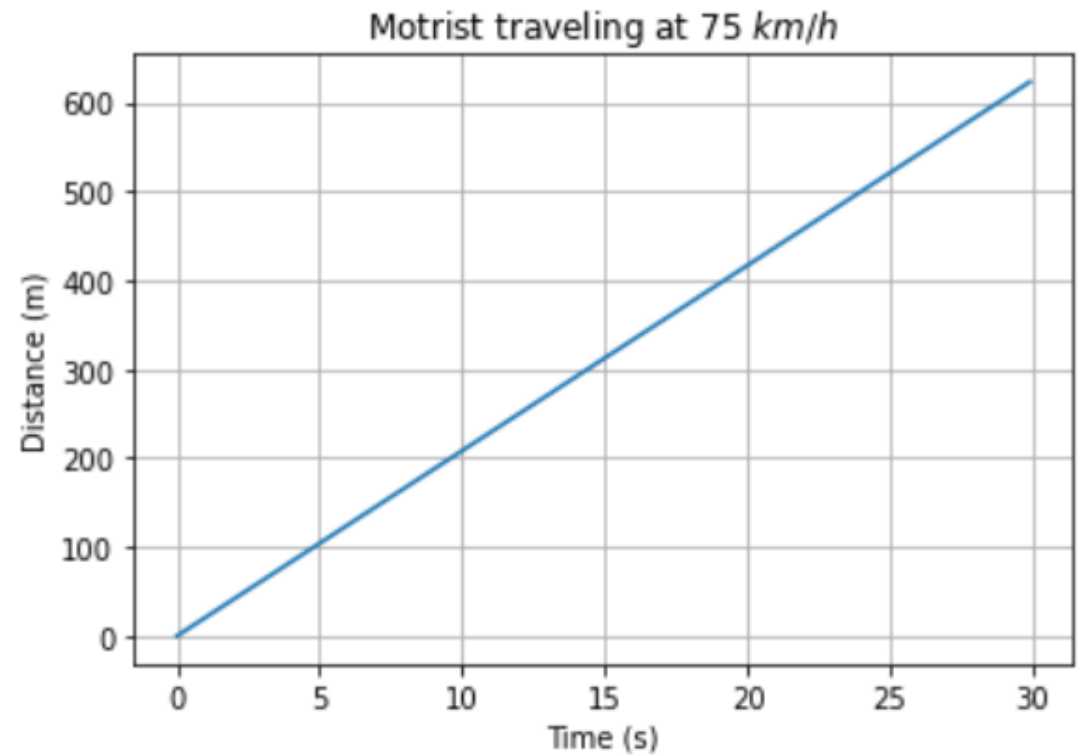
$$x = v_{\text{ave}} \cdot t = v_0 \cdot t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$$

Example – a motorist and a police car

EXAMPLE A speeding motorist zooms through a $50 \frac{\text{km}}{\text{h}}$ zone at $75 \frac{\text{km}}{\text{h}}$ without noticing a stationary police car. The police officer immediately heads after the speeder at $a = 2,5 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$. When the officer catches up to the speeder, how far down the road are they, and how fast is the police car going?

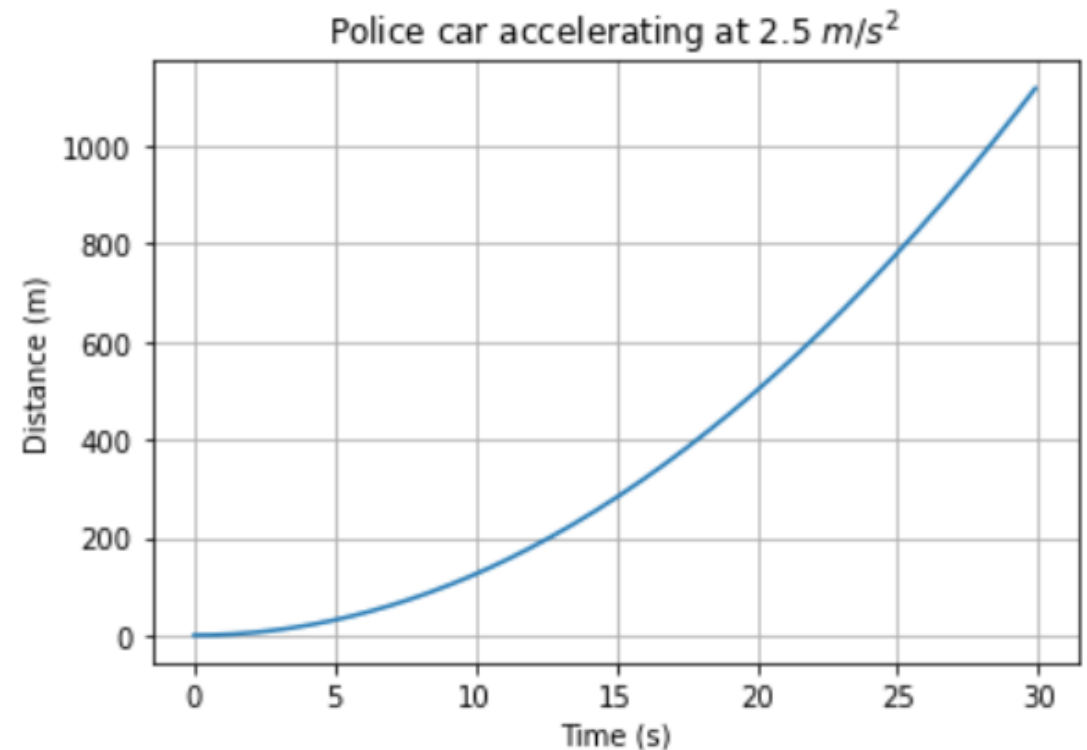
Constant velocity – the motorist

```
v0 = 75 * 1000/3600 # km/h => m/s
t = np.arange(0, 30, 0.1)
x = v0*t
plt.plot(t, x)
plt.xlabel('Time (s)')
plt.ylabel('Distance (m)')
plt.title('Motrist traveling at 75')
plt.grid()
plt.show()
```



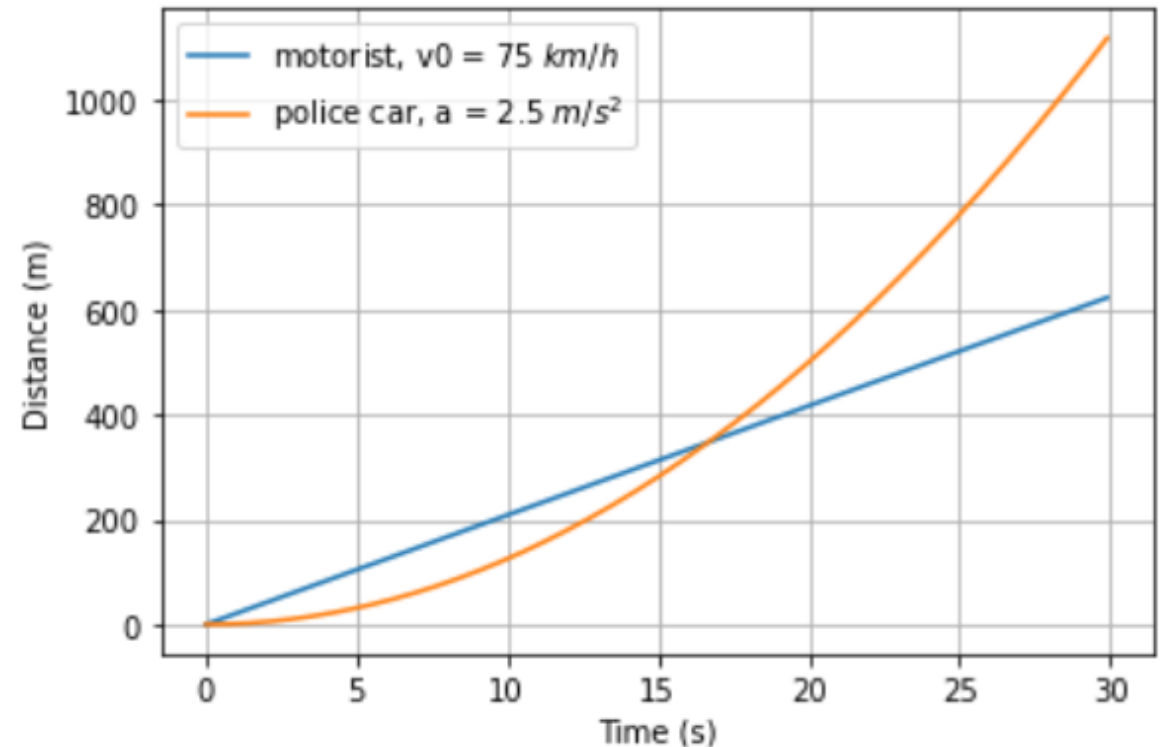
Constant acceleration – the police car

```
a = 2.5 # m/s^2
x2 = 1/2*a*t**2
plt.plot(t, x2)
plt.xlabel('Time (s)')
plt.ylabel('Distance (m)')
plt.title('Police car accelerating')
plt.grid()
plt.show()
```



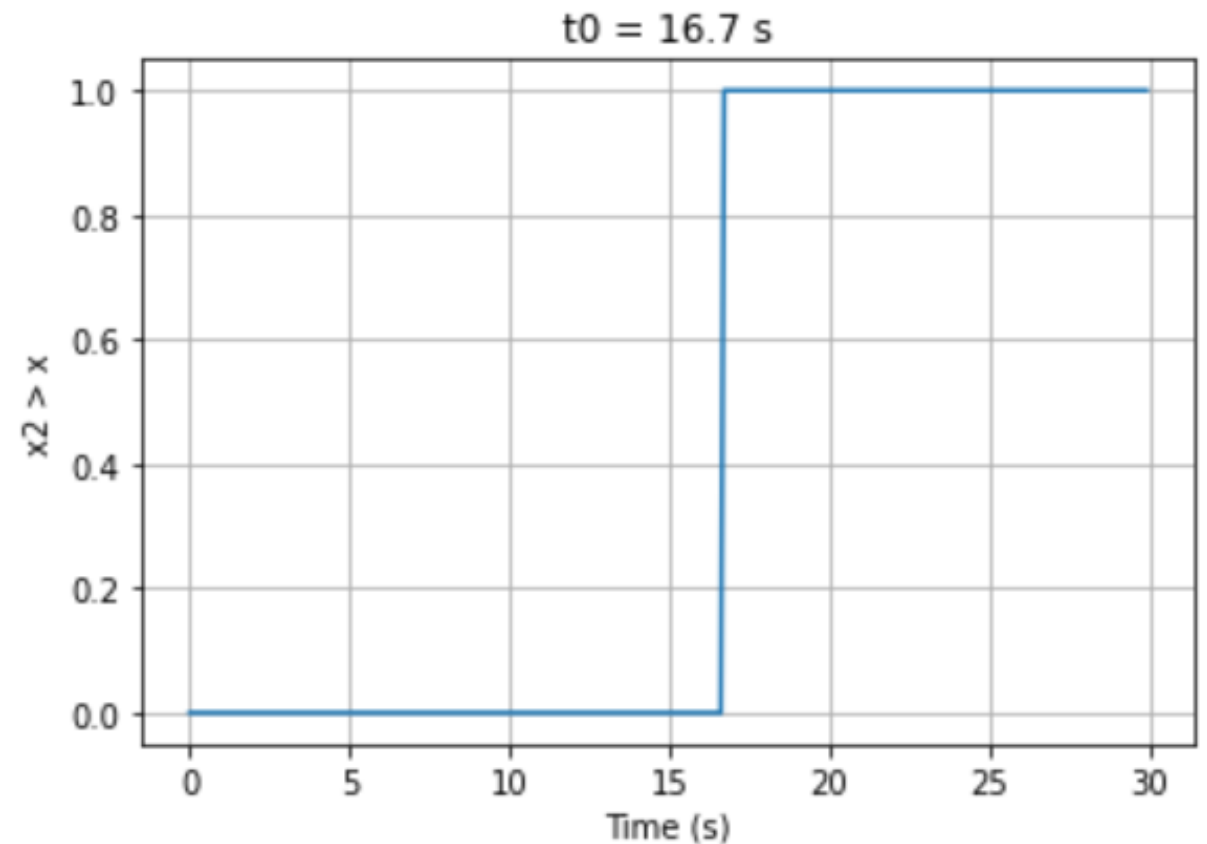
Comparison

```
plt.plot(t, x, label = 'motorist',  
plt.plot(t, x2, label = 'police c  
plt.xlabel('Time (s)')  
plt.ylabel('Distance (m)')  
plt.legend()  
plt.grid()  
plt.show()
```



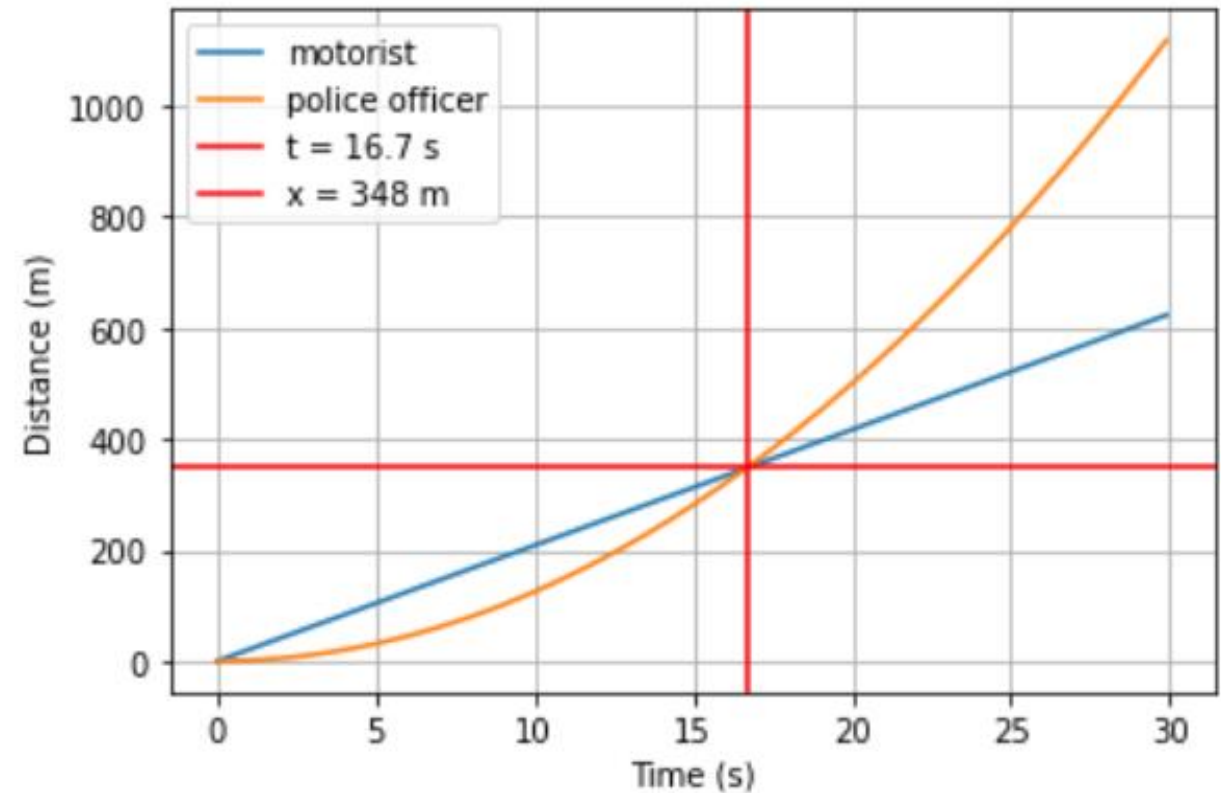
When does the officer catch the speeder?

```
# When is x2 greater than x?  
i = (x2 > x)  
plt.plot(t, i)  
plt.xlabel('Time (s)')  
plt.ylabel('x2 > x')  
plt.grid()  
  
# When does that happen?  
t0 = np.min(t[i])  
plt.title(f't0 = {t0} s')  
plt.show()
```



Catching time

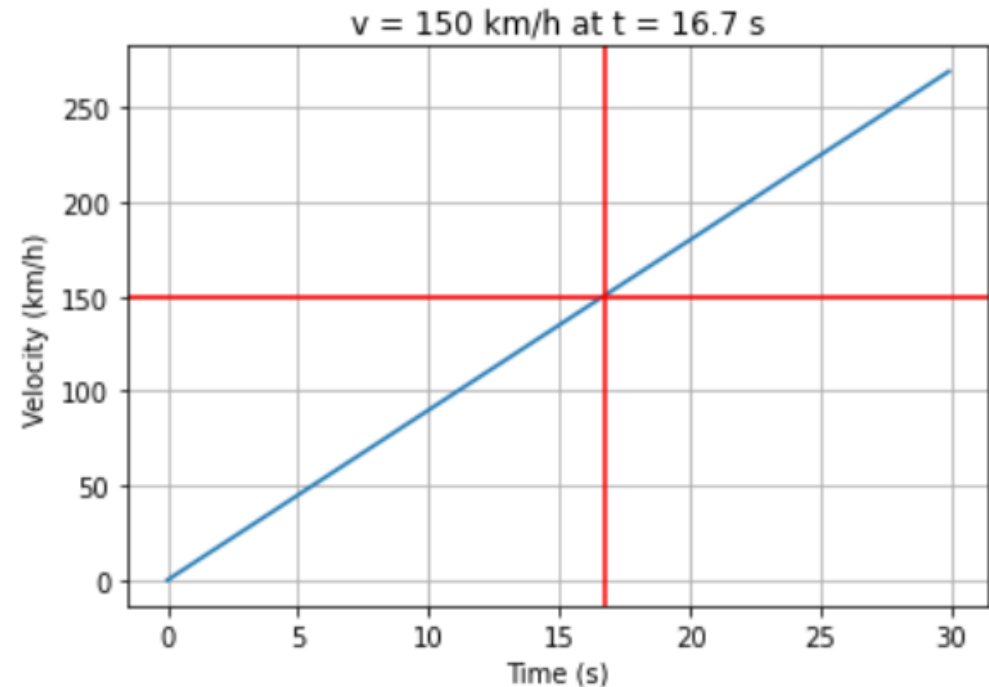
```
i2 = (t == t0)
x0 = x[i2]
plt.plot(t, x, label = 'motorist')
plt.plot(t, x2, label = 'police officer')
plt.axvline(t0, color = 'red', label = 't = 16.7 s')
plt.axhline(x0, color = 'red', label = 'x = 348 m')
plt.xlabel('Time (s)')
plt.ylabel('Distance (m)')
plt.legend()
plt.grid()
plt.show()
```



Police car's velocity at the end

```
v = a*t *3600/1000 # m/s ==> km/h
i2 = (t == t0)
v2 = v[i2]

plt.plot(t, v)
plt.axvline(t0, color = 'red')
plt.axhline(v2, color = 'red')
plt.xlabel('Time (s)')
plt.ylabel('Velocity (km/h)')
plt.title(f'v = {v2[0]:.0f} km/h at t = {t0} s')
plt.grid()
plt.show()
```

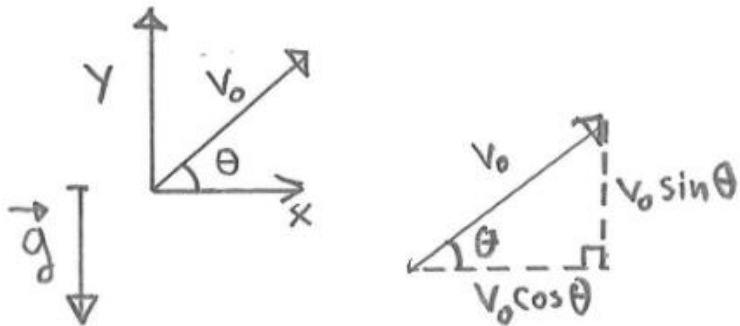




Projectile (2D) motion

Projectile (2D) motion

A projectile is an object that is launched into the air and then moves predominantly under the influence of gravity.



$$v_x = v_0 \cos(\theta)$$

$$v_y = v_0 \sin(\theta) - gt$$

$$x = x_0 + v_0 \cos(\theta)t$$

$$y = y_0 + v_0 \sin(\theta)t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

Trigonometric functions and angles

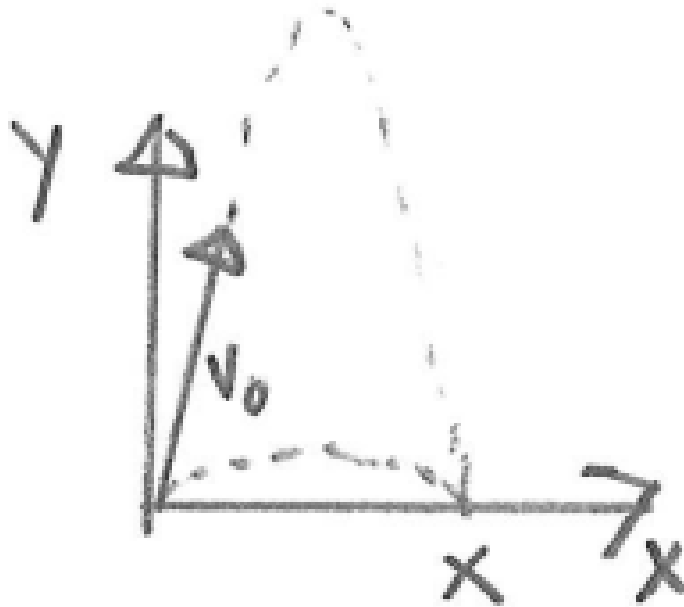
NOTE: The angle for trigonometric functions (sin, cos, tan) should be given in [radians](#).

For that reason we need [np.deg2rad\(\)](#) function to convert the degrees to radians. See also: [Conversions of angles](#).

Turns	Radians	Degrees
0 turn	0 rad	0°
1/12 turn	$\pi/6$ rad	30°
1/8 turn	$\pi/4$ rad	45°
1/6 turn	$\pi/3$ rad	60°
1/4 turn	$\pi/2$ rad	90°
1/3 turn	$2\pi/3$ rad	120°
1/2 turn	π rad	180°
3/4 turn	$3\pi/2$ rad	270°
1 turn	2π rad	360°

Example

You toss a ball at speed of 25.0 m/s and It leaves your hand at 1.5 m above a floor in angle of 30 degrees. How far does the ball flight? Draw the trajectory of the ball.



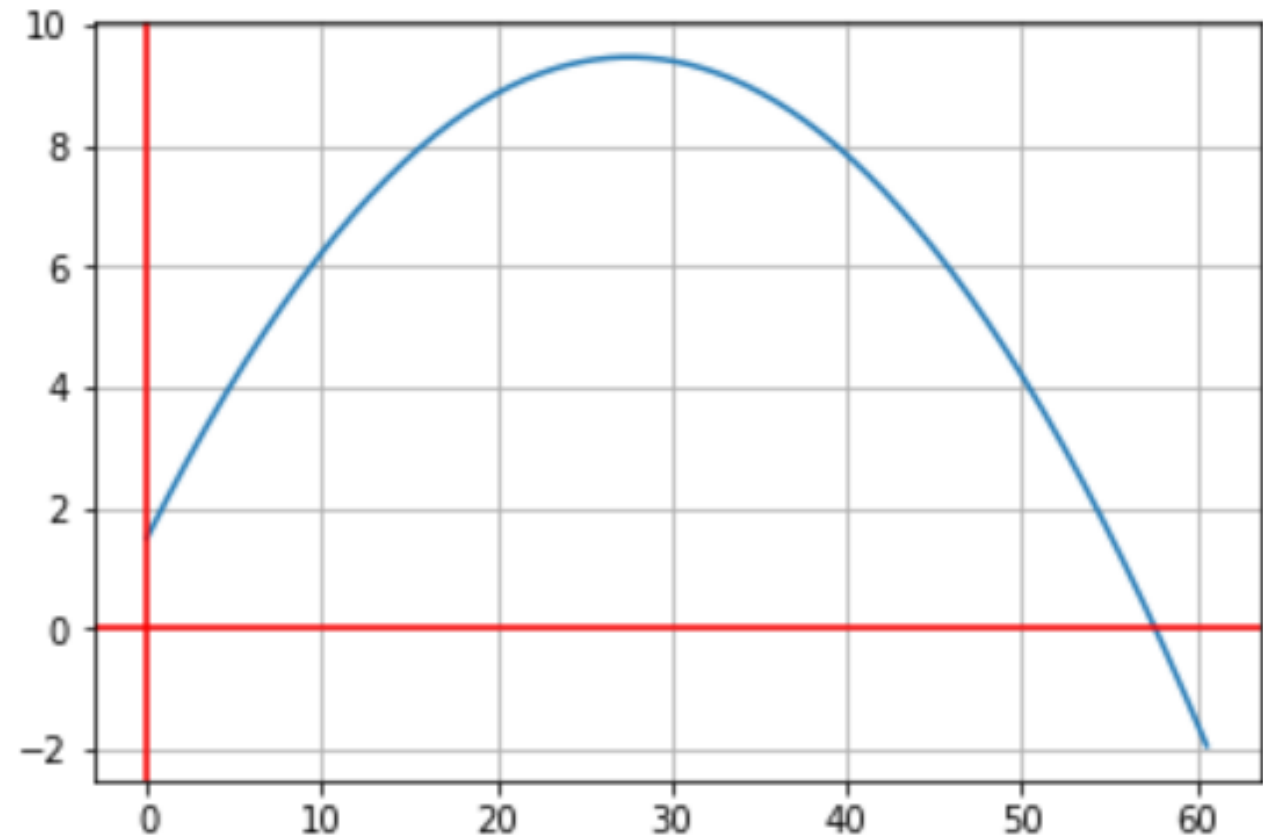
Example – tossing a ball (2D)

```
x0, y0 = 0, 1.5
v0 = 25.0
theta = np.deg2rad(30)
g = 9.81

t = np.arange(0, 2.8, 0.001)

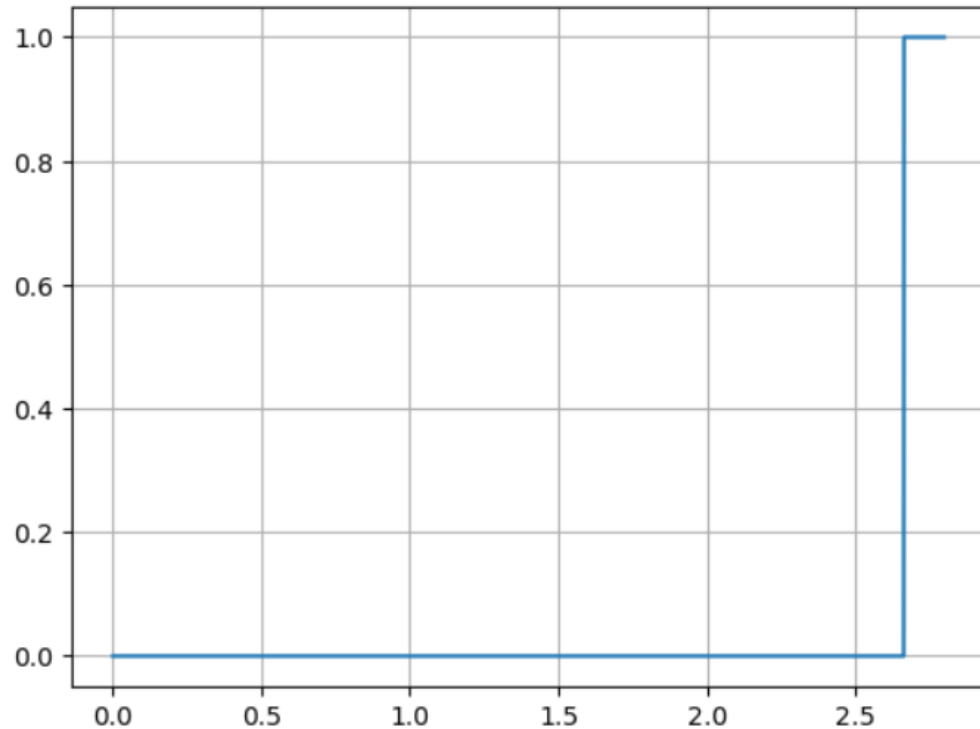
vx = v0*np.cos(theta)
vy = v0*np.sin(theta) - g*t
x = x0 + v0*np.cos(theta)*t
y = y0 + v0*np.sin(theta)*t - 1/2*g*t**2

plt.plot(x, y)
plt.axhline(0, color = 'red')
plt.axvline(0, color = 'red')
plt.grid()
```



When does the ball land to the floor?

```
i = (y <= 0)
plt.plot(t, i)
plt.grid()
```



```
t_end = np.min(t[i])
print(f't_end = {t_end} s')
```

t_end = 2.664 s

What is the landing location?

```
i_end = (t == t_end)
x_end = x[i_end][0]
print(f'The ball lands at x = {x_end:.1f} m')
```

The ball lands at x = 57.7 m

Creating animations (BONUS)

[FuncAnimation](#) makes an animation by repeatedly calling a given graphics function. The animation is then converted to HTML presentation by using [IPython.display](#) module's HTML class.

We use the same data as in previous example, but now we reduce the time step in order to make the simulation run smoother.

```
from IPython.display import HTML
from matplotlib.animation import FuncAnimation
```

Animation example

```
t = np.arange(0, 2.67, 0.02)

vx = v0*np.cos(theta)
vy = v0*np.sin(theta) - g*t
x = x0 + v0*np.cos(theta)*t
y = y0 + v0*np.sin(theta)*t - 1/2*g*t**2

# Initialize the graph
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
l1, = ax.plot(x, y)
l2, = ax.plot(x[-1], y[-1], 'bo')

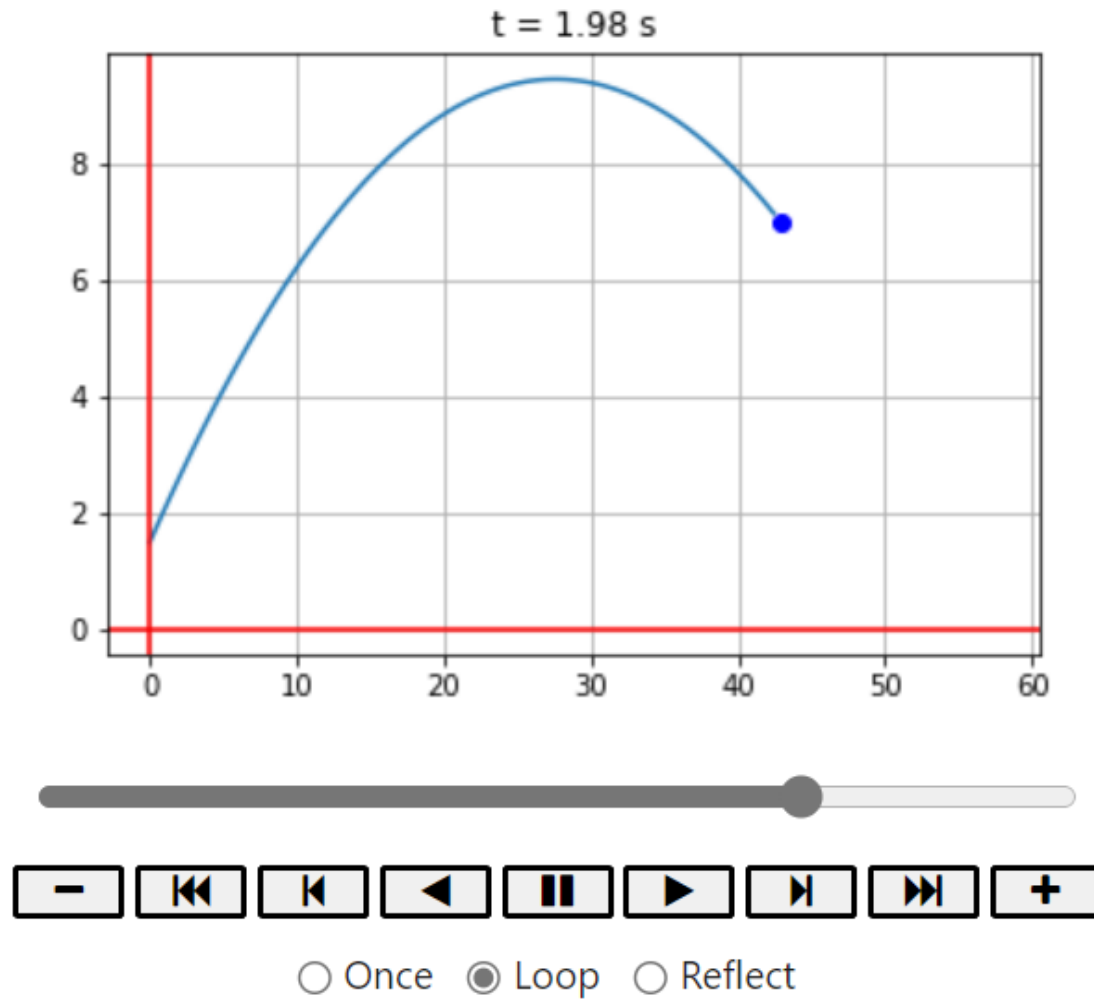
plt.axhline(0, color = 'red')
plt.axvline(0, color = 'red')
plt.grid(True)
```

```
# Animation function
def animate(i):
    l1.set_data(x[:i], y[:i])
    l2.set_data(x[i], y[i])
    ax.set_title(f't = {t[i]:.2f} s')

# Create animation
ani = FuncAnimation(fig, animate, frames=len(x))

# Show the animation
HTML(ani.to_jshtml())
```

Animation controls



Next steps

- Practice – Lab 5
 - Notebook can be found from OMA assignments
 - Moodle has code check and verification
- Read more
 - Salin, T. Physics lecture notes.
 - [What are the kinematic formulas? \(article\) | Khan Academy](#)
 - [Projectile motion - Wikipedia](#)
- Extra
 - [matplotlib.animation — Matplotlib documentation](#)